

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 8:30 a.m. on March 20, 2009, in Room 136-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Mike Corrigan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Cindy Shepard, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Pat Hurley, Executive Director, Economic Lifelines
Kent Eckles, Vice-President of Government Affairs, Kansas Chamber of Commerce
Larry Baer, Assistant General Counsel, League of Kansas Municipalities

Others attending:

See attached list.

Final action on **HB 2152 - Towed vehicles, lien thereon, city ordinance or county resolution.**

Staff distributed a proposed amendment from Senator Apple (Attachment 1), and following discussion, Senator Apple moved, Senator Petersen seconded, to adopt the amendment presented. Motion carried.

Following continued discussion, Senator Brownlee moved, Senator Schmidt seconded, to further amend **HB 2152** by changing the language on page 2, line 4, to strike the word person. After discussion on the proposal, Senator Brownlee withdrew her motion, Senator Schmidt seconded.

Senator Kultala moved, Senator Petersen seconded, to recommend **HB 2152**, as amended, favorably for passage. Motion carried.

The Chairman opened the continued hearing on **SB 323 - 2010 transportation plan, financing thereof.**

Pat Hurley, Executive Director of Economic Lifelines, a coalition of more than forty organizations which support the enactment of Comprehensive Transportation Programs for the State of Kansas, presented favorable testimony on the introduction of **SB 323**. He stated that due to the current economic downturn, the primary focus this session was confronting a projected billion dollar deficit in the general fund. He noted that with the combination of the Federal Stimulus Funds and Kansas Department of Transportation's current revenues, there would be adequate revenue to continue a transportation program for fiscal year 2010. His recommendation would be to urge the legislature to provide a forum, during the interim period between sessions, to allow the maximum input from all interested parties regarding the final shape and substance of a new program (Attachment 2).

Kent Eckles, Vice-President of Government Affairs, representing the Kansas Chamber of Commerce, provided testimony in support of a Comprehensive Transportation Plan, but in opposition to the funding mechanisms proposed in **SB 323** (Attachment 3).

- Transportation Infrastructure as an Investment
- Impact of Transportation Funding on Overall Business Climate

Larry Baer, Assistant General Counsel for the League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM), testified in support of **SB 323**. He stated that the prosperity of the State of Kansas is dependent upon the prosperity of our cities. LKM believes that transportation infrastructure is critical to the growth, development and continued vibrancy of our cities, therefore the League supports the continued maintenance and expansion of the transportation infrastructure (Attachment 4).

Following discussion, the Chairman closed the hearing on **SB 323**.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m. This is the last scheduled committee meeting for the 2009 session.